

10/018361

531 Rec'd PCT/PTC 19 DEC 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :

Graham PERRET et al. :

Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. NEW :

Docket No. 2001\_1855A

Filed December 19, 2001 :

DEEP WATER TLP TETHER SYSTEM  
[Corresponding to PCT/NO00/00215  
Filed June 22, 2000]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENT FEE  
FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

#7/A  
8-6-02  
SW

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend  
the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly replace the original specification and abstract as filed in the  
International Stage with the enclosed substitute specification and abstract.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice or disclaimer recited thereof.

Kindly add the following new claims:

13.(NEW) Tether system for tension leg platforms (4), with tethers (6) having  
upper and lower pipe sections (1, 2), characterized by the tethers (6) having a stepped  
reduction of the diameter towards the seabed such that the upper section(s) (1) have

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